

EXHIBIT 037


U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)**“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”**

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
10. A method for buffering data in an integrated circuit having a plurality of processing modules being connected with an interconnect through interface units, wherein a first processing module communicates to a second processing module using transactions, the method comprising the acts of:	<p>Without conceding that the preamble of claim 10 of the '800 Patent is limiting, the Motorola Edge+ Gen 2 (hereinafter, the “Motorola product”) performs a method for buffering data in an integrated circuit having a plurality of processing modules being connected with an interconnect through interface units, wherein a first processing module communicates to a second processing module using transactions), either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>The Motorola product includes an integrated circuit. For example, the Motorola product includes the Qualcomm Snapdragon 8 Gen 1 Mobile Platform system on chip (hereinafter, the “Snapdragon SoC”).</p>

¹ The Motorola product is charted as a representative product made used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported by Motorola. The citations to evidence contained herein are illustrative and should not be understood to be limiting. The right is expressly reserved to rely upon additional or different evidence, or to rely on additional citations to the evidence cited already cited herein.


U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<div data-bbox="527 342 978 824">  </div> <div data-bbox="1129 329 1738 389"> <h2>Motorola Edge+ Gen 2</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="1129 409 1707 438"> <p>Featuring a Snapdragon 8 Gen 1 Mobile Platform</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1129 462 1869 753"> <p>The Motorola edge+ was born for 5G speed. This state-of-the-art smartphone gives you up to 2 full days of power, lightning-fast speed, and pro-quality features for doing more of what you love. Leave lag time behind with a massive 256 GB+ memory and blazing-fast premium Snapdragon mobile platform. Enjoy days of entertainment on a beautiful display that wraps around the edges and has superior stereo-quality sound. Get the best of Android OS without the extra baggage.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1171 852 1285 875"> <p>Learn more</p> </div> <div data-bbox="489 937 1650 976"> <p>https://www.qualcomm.com/snapdragon/device-finder/motorola-edge--gen-2</p> </div> <div data-bbox="489 1016 1883 1127"> <p>The Snapdragon SoC comprises a plurality of processing modules, for example Qualcomm Adreno GPU; Qualcomm Kryo CPU; Qualcomm Hexagon Processor; and Platform Security Foundations, Trusted Execution Environment & Services, Secure Processing Unit (SPU):</p> </div>

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	<div data-bbox="506 256 903 389">  <p>Snapdragon 8 mobile platform Gen 1</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1465 280 1749 300">SPECIFICATIONS & FEATURES</div> <div data-bbox="506 451 716 477"> Artificial Intelligence <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="506 487 896 740"> <p>Qualcomm® Adreno™ GPU</p> <p>Qualcomm® Kryo™ CPU</p> <p>Qualcomm® Hexagon™ Processor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fused AI Accelerator • Hexagon Tensor Accelerator • Hexagon Vector eXtensions • Hexagon Scalar Accelerator • Support for mix precision(INT8+INT16) • Support for all precisions (INT8, INT16, FP16) <p>Qualcomm® Sensing Hub</p> </div> <div data-bbox="506 768 737 794"> 5G Modem-RF System <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="506 800 896 1175"> <p>Snapdragon X65 5G Modem-RF System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5G mmWave and sub-6 GHz, standalone (SA) and non-standalone (NSA) modes, FDD, TDD • Dynamic Spectrum Sharing • mmWave: 1000 MHz bandwidth, 8 carriers, 2x2 MIMO • Sub-6 GHz: 300 MHz bandwidth, 4x4 MIMO • Qualcomm® 5G PowerSave 2.0 • Qualcomm® Smart Transmit™ 2.0 technology • Qualcomm® Wideband Envelope Tracking • Qualcomm® AI-Enhanced Signal Boost • Global 5G multi-SIM <p>Downlink: Up to 10 Gbps</p> <p>Multimode support: 5G NR, LTE including CBRS, WCDMA, HSPA, TD-SCDMA, CDMA 1x, EV-DO, GSM/EDGE</p> </div> <div data-bbox="934 451 1020 477"> Camera <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="934 487 1320 1175"> <p>Qualcomm Spectra™ Image Signal Processor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triple 18-bit ISPs • Up to 3.2 Gigapixels per Second computer vision ISP (CV-ISP) • Up to 36 MP triple camera @ 30 FPS with Zero Shutter Lag • Up to 64+36 MP dual camera @ 30 FPS with Zero Shutter Lag • Up to 108 MP single camera @ 30 FPS with Zero Shutter Lag • Up to 200 Megapixel Photo Capture <p>Rec. 2020 color gamut photo and video capture</p> <p>Up to 10-bit color depth photo and video capture</p> <p>8K HDR Video Capture + 64 MP Photo Capture</p> <p>10-bit HEIF: HEIC photo capture, HEVC video capture</p> <p>Video Capture Formats: HDR10+, HDR10, HLG, Dolby Vision</p> <p>8K HDR Video Capture @ 30 FPS</p> <p>4K Video Capture @ 120 FPS</p> <p>Slow-mo video capture at 720p @ 960 FPS</p> <p>Bokeh Engine for Video Capture</p> <p>Video super resolution</p> <p>Multi-frame Noise Reduction (MFNR)</p> <p>Locally Motion Compensated Temporal Filtering</p> <p>Multi-Frame and triple exposure staggered/digital overlap HDR dual-sensor support</p> <p>AI-based face detection, auto-focus, and auto-exposure</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1350 451 1409 477"> CPU <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="1350 487 1740 557"> <p>Kryo CPU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 3.0 GHz*, with Arm Cortex-X2 technology • 64-bit Architecture </div> <div data-bbox="1350 586 1539 612"> Visual Subsystem <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="1350 621 1740 893"> <p>Adreno GPU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulkan® 1.1 API support • HDR gaming (10-bit color depth, Rec. 2020 color gamut) • Physically Based Rendering • Volumetric Rendering • Adreno Frame Motion Engine • API Support: OpenGL® ES 3.2, OpenCL™ 2.0 FP, Vulkan 1.1 • Hardware-accelerated H.265 and VP9 decoder • HDR Playback Codec support for HDR10+, HDR10, HLG and Dolby Vision </div> <div data-bbox="1350 922 1444 948"> Security <hr/> </div> <div data-bbox="1350 956 1740 1146"> <p>Platform Security Foundations, Trusted Execution Environment & Services, Secure Processing Unit (SPU)</p> <p>Trust Management Engine</p> <p>Qualcomm® wireless edge services (WES) and premium security features</p> <p>Qualcomm® 3D Sonic Sensor and Qualcomm 3D Sonic Max (fingerprint sensor)</p> <p>Qualcomm® Type-1 Hypervisor</p> </div>

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	<div data-bbox="506 272 705 298">Wi-Fi & Bluetooth*</div> <div data-bbox="506 310 905 651"> <p>Qualcomm® FastConnect™ 6900 System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wi-Fi Standards: Wi-Fi 6E, Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax), Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac), 802.11a/b/g/n • Wi-Fi Spectral Bands: 24 GHz, 5 GHz, 6 GHz • Peak speed: 3.6 Gbps • Channel Bandwidth: 20/40/80/160 MHz • 8-stream sounding (for 8x8 MU-MIMO) • MIMO Configuration: 2x2 (2-stream) • MU-MIMO (Uplink & Downlink) • 4K QAM • OFDMA (Uplink & Downlink) • Dual-band simultaneous (2x2 + 2x2) • Wi-Fi Security: WPA3-Enterprise, WPA3- Enhanced Open, WPA3 Easy Connect, WPA3-Personal </div> <div data-bbox="506 667 894 797"> <p>Integrated Bluetooth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluetooth Features: Bluetooth 5.2, LE Audio, Dual Bluetooth antennas • Bluetooth audio: Snapdragon Sound™ Technology with support for Qualcomm® aptX™ Voice, aptX Lossless, aptX Adaptive, and LE audio </div> <div data-bbox="506 829 688 855">snapdragon.com</div> <div data-bbox="506 922 1751 1032"> <p><small>* Exact speed measured at 2.995 GHz Certain optional features available subject to Carrier and ODM selection for an additional fee. Snapdragon, Qualcomm, Qualcomm Hexagon, Qualcomm 5G PowerSave, Qualcomm Kyra, Qualcomm Smart Transmit, Qualcomm Wideband Envelope, Qualcomm AI-Enhanced Signal Boost, Qualcomm Spectra, Qualcomm Agstic, Qualcomm 3D Sonic Sensor, Qualcomm Type-T Hypervisor, and Qualcomm Quick Charge are products of Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and/or its subsidiaries. Qualcomm wireless edge services are offered by Qualcomm Technologies Inc. and/or its subsidiaries. Snapdragon, Qualcomm, Hexagon, Snapdragon Elite Gaming, Adreno, FastConnect, Snapdragon Sound, Kyra, Smart Transmit, Qualcomm Spectra, Qualcomm Agstic, and Quick Charge are trademarks or registered trademarks of Qualcomm Incorporated. aptX is a trademark or registered trademark of Qualcomm Technologies International, Ltd. ©2021 Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and/or its affiliated companies. All Rights Reserved.</small></p> </div> <div data-bbox="499 1089 1562 1166"> <p>https://www.qualcomm.com/content/dam/qcomm-martech/dm-assets/documents/snapdragon-8-gen-1-mobile-platform-product-brief.pdf</p> </div> <div data-bbox="499 1206 1793 1325"> <p>The Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product utilizes Arteris network on chip interconnect technology, and/or a derivative thereof, (collectively, the “Arteris NoC”) as an interconnect to connect the plurality of processing modules through interface units:</p> </div> <div data-bbox="947 272 1020 298">Audio</div> <div data-bbox="947 310 1356 461"> <p>Qualcomm Agstic™ audio codec (WCD9385)</p> <p>New Qualcomm Agstic smart speaker amplifier (WSA8835)</p> <p>Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise (THD+N), Playback: -108dB</p> <p>Qualcomm Audio and Voice Communication Suite</p> </div> <div data-bbox="947 488 1037 514">Display</div> <div data-bbox="947 524 1356 737"> <p>On-Device Display Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4K @ 60 Hz • QHD+ @ 144 Hz <p>Maximum External Display Support: up to 4K @ 60 Hz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-bit color depth, Rec. 2020 color gamut • HDR10 and HDR10+ <p>Demura and subpixel rendering for OLED Uniformity</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1386 245 1503 272">Charging</div> <div data-bbox="1386 282 1707 305"> <p>Qualcomm® Quick Charge™ 5 Technology</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1386 331 1497 357">Location</div> <div data-bbox="1386 367 1743 537"> <p>GPS, Glonass, BeiDou, Galileo, QZSS, NavIC capable</p> <p>Dual Frequency GNSS (L1/L5)</p> <p>Sensor-Assisted Positioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban pedestrian navigation with sidewalk accuracy • Global freeway lane-level vehicle navigation </div> <div data-bbox="1386 570 1491 596">Memory</div> <div data-bbox="1386 605 1749 656"> <p>Support for LP-DDR5 memory up to 3200 MHz</p> <p>Memory Density: up to 16 GB</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1386 683 1638 709">General Specifications</div> <div data-bbox="1386 719 1755 828"> <p>Full Suite of Snapdragon Elite Gaming™ features</p> <p>4 nm Process Technology</p> <p>USB Version 3.1; USB Type-C Support</p> <p>Part Number: SM8450</p> </div>


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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<div data-bbox="512 256 1066 941"><p data-bbox="558 305 768 354">Qualcomm</p><p data-bbox="558 557 1003 735">Arteris-developed NoC technology is the backbone of Snapdragon application processors & LTE modems, Atheros wireless connectivity SoCs, and CSR IoT products.</p><div data-bbox="661 805 909 880">LEARN MORE »</div></div> <p data-bbox="501 992 1713 1029">https://web.archive.org/web/20210514110614/https://www.arteris.com/customers</p>

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	<p data-bbox="575 253 1360 302">Certain Arteris Technology Assets Acquired</p> <p data-bbox="785 331 1150 358">by Kurt Shuler, on October 31, 2013</p> <p data-bbox="512 396 1255 423">Arteris to continue to license, support and maintain Arteris FlexNoC® interconnect IP</p> <p data-bbox="512 448 1417 553">SUNNYVALE, California — October 31, 2013 — Arteris Inc., a leading innovator and supplier of silicon-proven commercial network-on-chip (NoC) interconnect IP solutions, today announced that Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. (“Qualcomm”), a subsidiary of Qualcomm Incorporated, has acquired certain technology assets from Arteris and hired personnel formerly employed by Arteris.</p> <p data-bbox="512 586 1356 732"> “Arteris NoC technology has been and will continue to be a key enabler for creating larger and more complex chips in a shorter amount of time at a lower cost. This acquisition of our technology assets represents a validation of the value of Arteris’ Network-on-Chip interconnect IP technology. ” </p> <p data-bbox="1234 776 1377 803">ARTERIS </p> <p data-bbox="1119 850 1377 868"><i>K. Charles Janac, President and CEO, Arteris</i></p> <p data-bbox="501 935 1797 1008"> https://www.arteris.com/press-releases/Qualcomm-Arteris-asset-acquisition-2013_oct_31; https://www.fiercewireless.com/tech/qualcomm-acquires-arteris-noc-tech-assets-team </p> <p data-bbox="501 1052 1875 1125">A large SoC, such as the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product may include multiple classes of Arteris NoC interconnect:</p>

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	<div data-bbox="533 261 1577 318"> <h2>Logical Interconnect Topology Development</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="533 326 1402 354"> <p>FLEXNOC & NCORE INTERCONNECT IPS DEFINE ARCHITECTURES</p> </div> <div data-bbox="533 370 1864 808"> </div> <div data-bbox="533 816 1745 919"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArChip16 Example: Large SoCs have multiple classes of interconnect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Non-coherent, Coherent, Control/Status, Observability, etc. • Ncore & FlexNoC interconnects are managed separately from IP blocks, increasing design flexibility </div> <div data-bbox="506 954 636 980"> <p>ARTERIS IP</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1102 961 1251 977"> <p>ISPD 2018, 28 March 2018</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1654 961 1854 977"> <p>Copyright © 2018 Arteris IP 9</p> </div>
	<p>See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slide 9.</p> <p>The Arteris NoC is an interconnect connects the plurality of processing modules in the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product through interface units, wherein a first processing module communicates to a second processing module using transactions.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris</p>

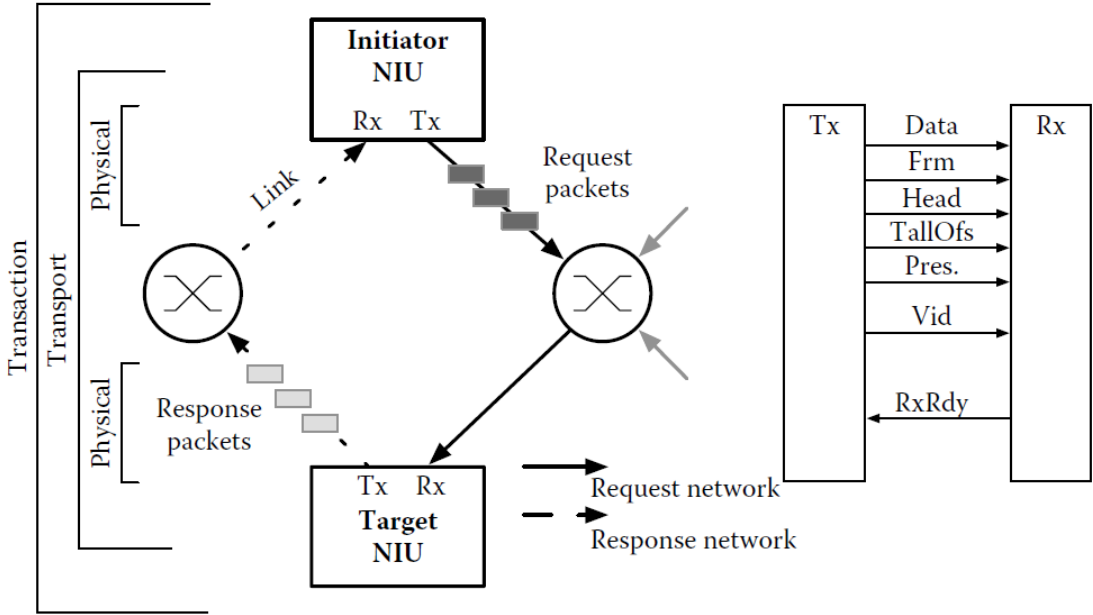
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	<p>NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p> <p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU’s Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313; see <i>id</i> at 308 (explaining that Chapter 11 of this book describes the function of the Arteris NoC: “In this chapter we will present an MPSoC platform [...] using Arteris NoC as communication infrastructure.”).</p>
configuring the first processing module having a first memory as a	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product configures the first processing module having a first memory as a master the provides requests, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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master the provides requests;	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

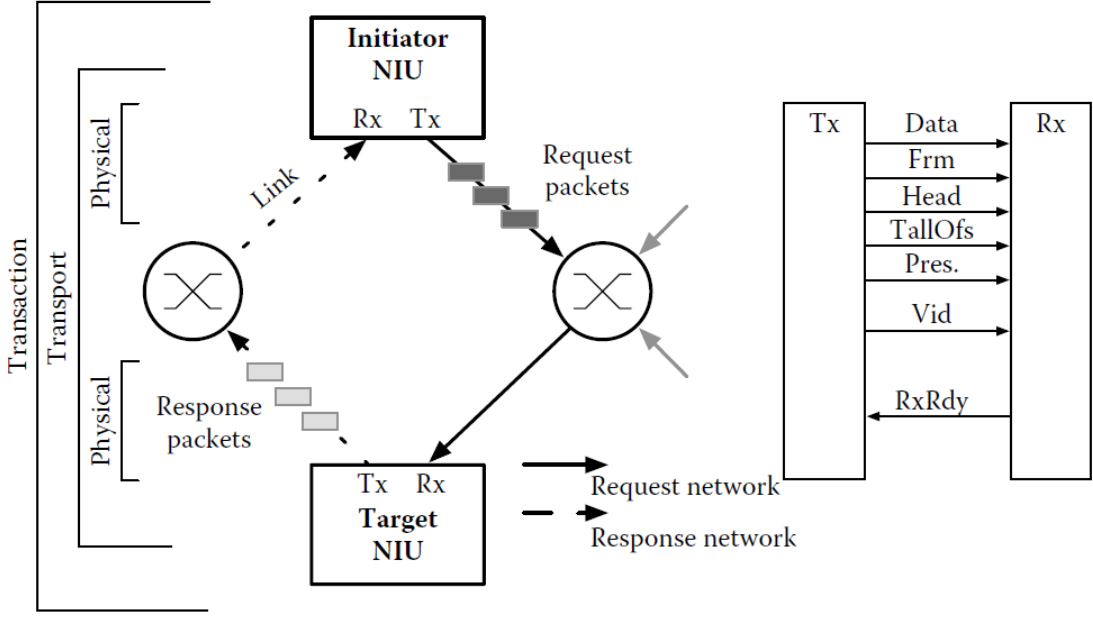
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p>The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p>As a further example, “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC [and] translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP” and has a “FIFO memory [...] inserted in the datapath for AHB write access”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 256 1854 630">burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul data-bbox="598 673 1801 971" style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p>
configuring the second processing module having a second memory as	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product configures the second processing module having a second memory as a slave the provides responses to the requests, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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a slave the provides responses to the requests;	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

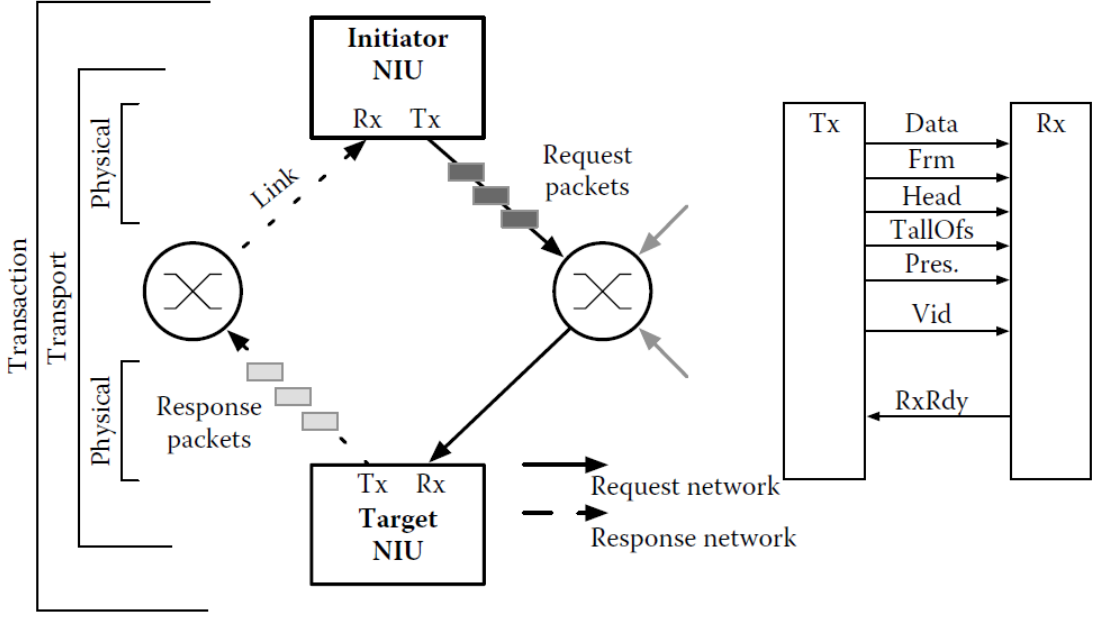
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 732 1808 805">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1850 967">As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets” and have a FIFO memory in the datapath:</p>

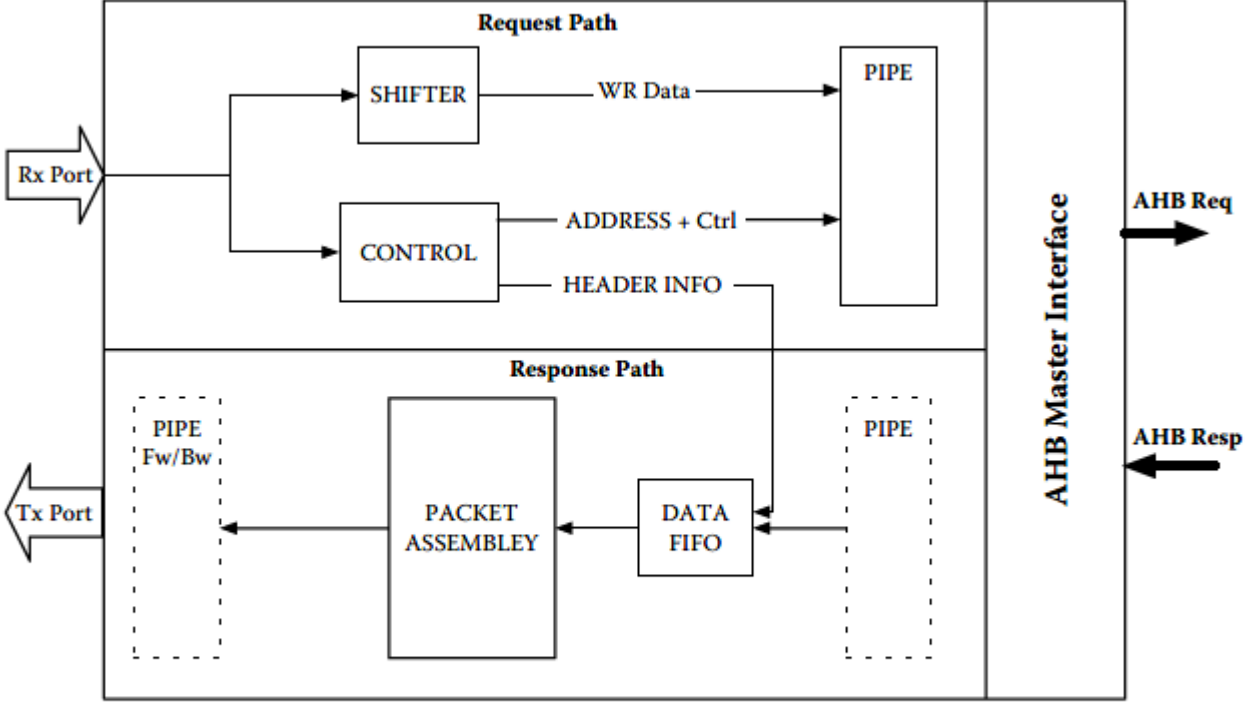
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Target NIU Architecture</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Target NIU Architecture. It is divided into two main horizontal sections: the Request Path (top) and the Response Path (bottom). On the left, there is an Rx Port (input) and a Tx Port (output). The Request Path contains a SHIFTER and a CONTROL block. The Rx Port feeds into both. The SHIFTER outputs WR Data to a PIPE. The CONTROL block outputs ADDRESS + Ctrl to the same PIPE and HEADER INFO to a DATA FIFO. The Response Path contains a PACKET ASSEMBLY and a DATA FIFO. The DATA FIFO receives data from the PIPE and outputs to the PACKET ASSEMBLY. The PACKET ASSEMBLY outputs to a PIPE Fw/Bw block, which then feeds into the Tx Port. On the right, the AHB Master Interface connects the internal components to the external AHB bus, with AHB Req (request) and AHB Resp (response) signals.</p> <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>
connecting the master to a master	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product connects the master to a master interface unit of the interface units, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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interface unit of the interface units;	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

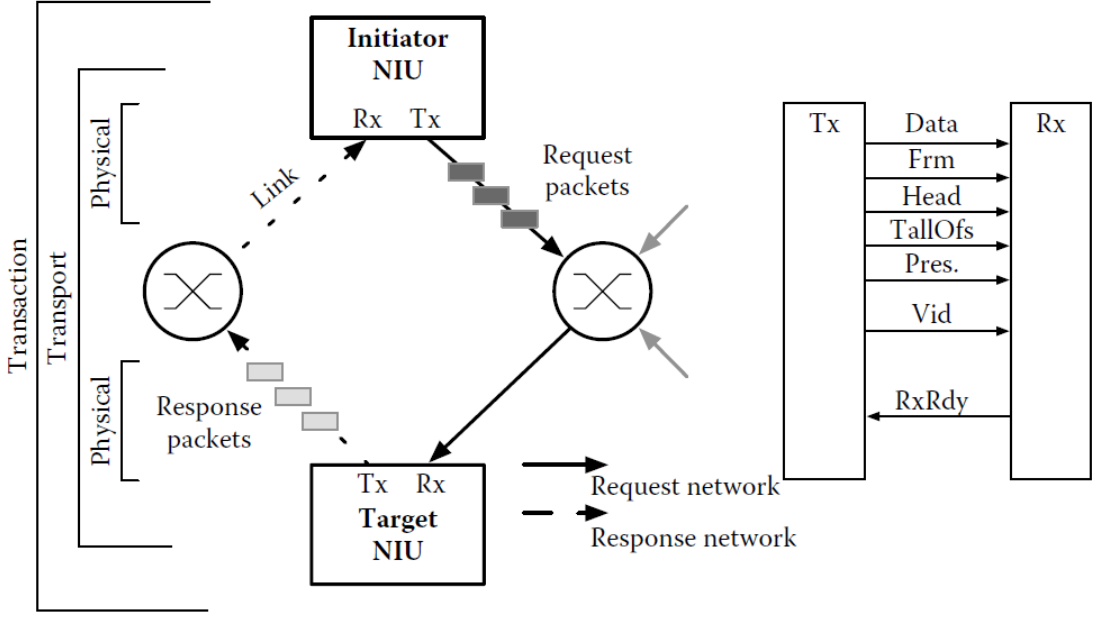
U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1879 927">As a further example, “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC”:</p>

U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

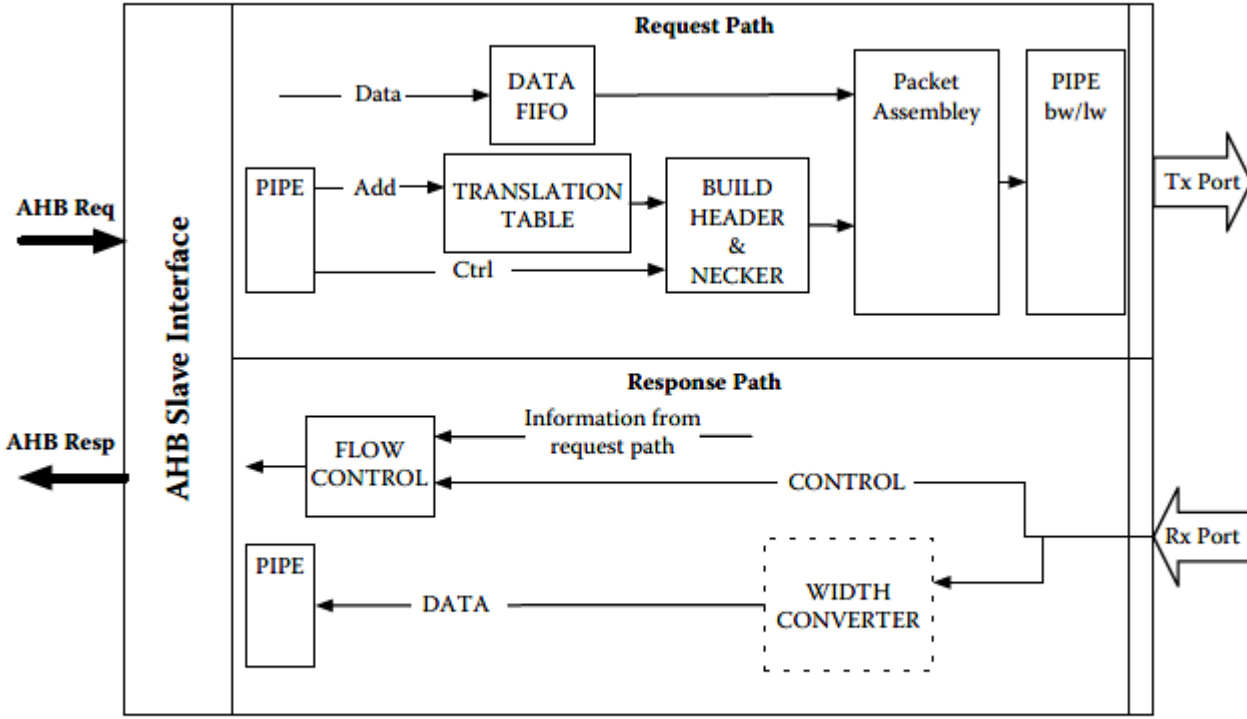
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	<p>burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p>  <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p>
connecting the master interface unit to the	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product connects the master interface unit to the interconnect so that the master interface unit is between the master and the interconnect, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
interconnect so that the master interface unit is between the master and the interconnect;	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

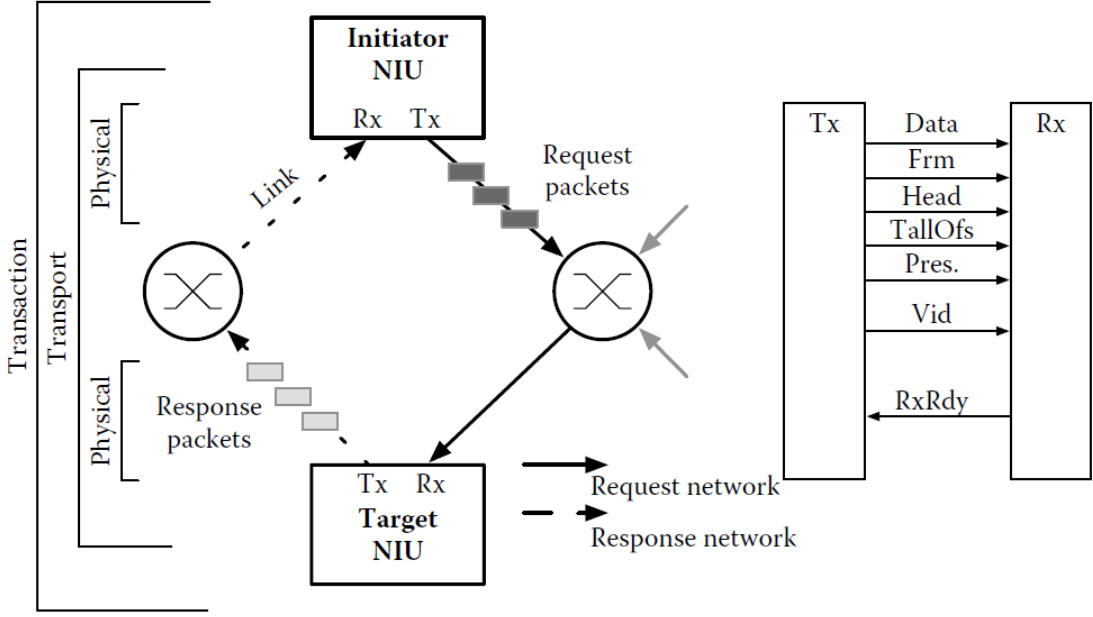
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p>The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p>As a further example, “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 256 1854 630">burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul data-bbox="598 678 1801 971" style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p> <p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. Both paths interface with an AHB Slave Interface on the left. The Request Path starts with an AHB Req signal entering the AHB Slave Interface. Data flows from the AHB Slave Interface into a DATA FIFO, then to a Packet Assembly block, and finally to a PIPE bw/lw block, which connects to the Tx Port. A PIPE block also feeds into the TRANSLATION TABLE, which outputs an Add signal to the TRANSLATION TABLE and a Ctrl signal to the BUILD HEADER & NECKER block. The TRANSLATION TABLE also receives information from the request path. The Response Path starts with an AHB Resp signal leaving the AHB Slave Interface. It flows through a FLOW CONTROL block, which receives information from the request path. The FLOW CONTROL block outputs a CONTROL signal to the WIDTH CONVERTER block. The WIDTH CONVERTER block outputs a DATA signal to a PIPE block, which then connects to the Rx Port.</p> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p>
connecting the slave to a slave	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product connecting the slave to a slave interface unit of the interface units, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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interface unit of the interface units;	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

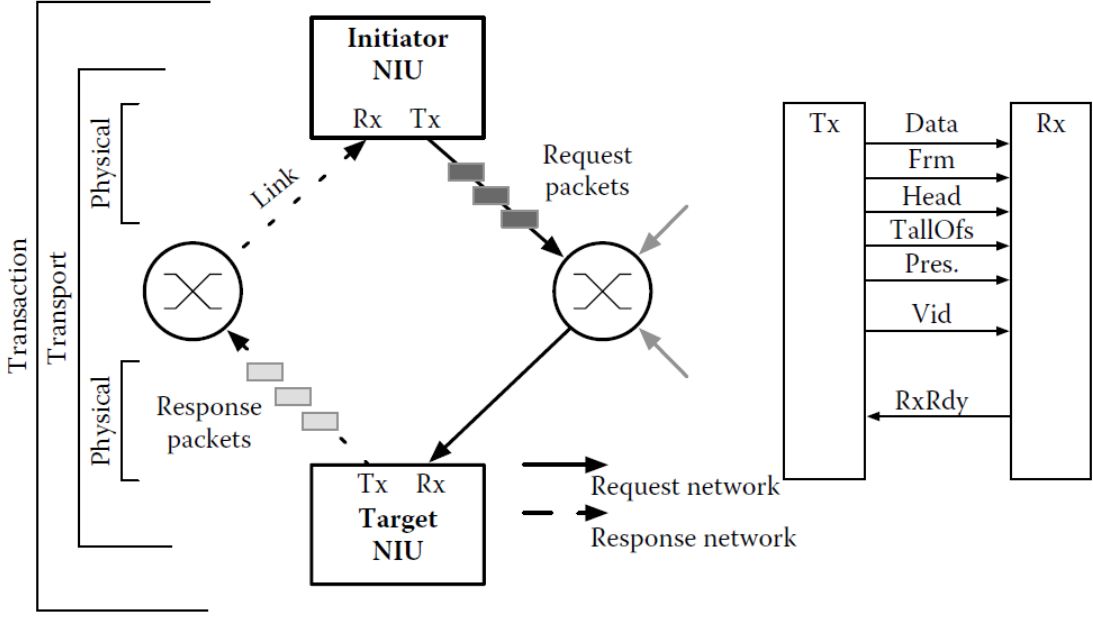
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 894 1850 1008">As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets”:</p>

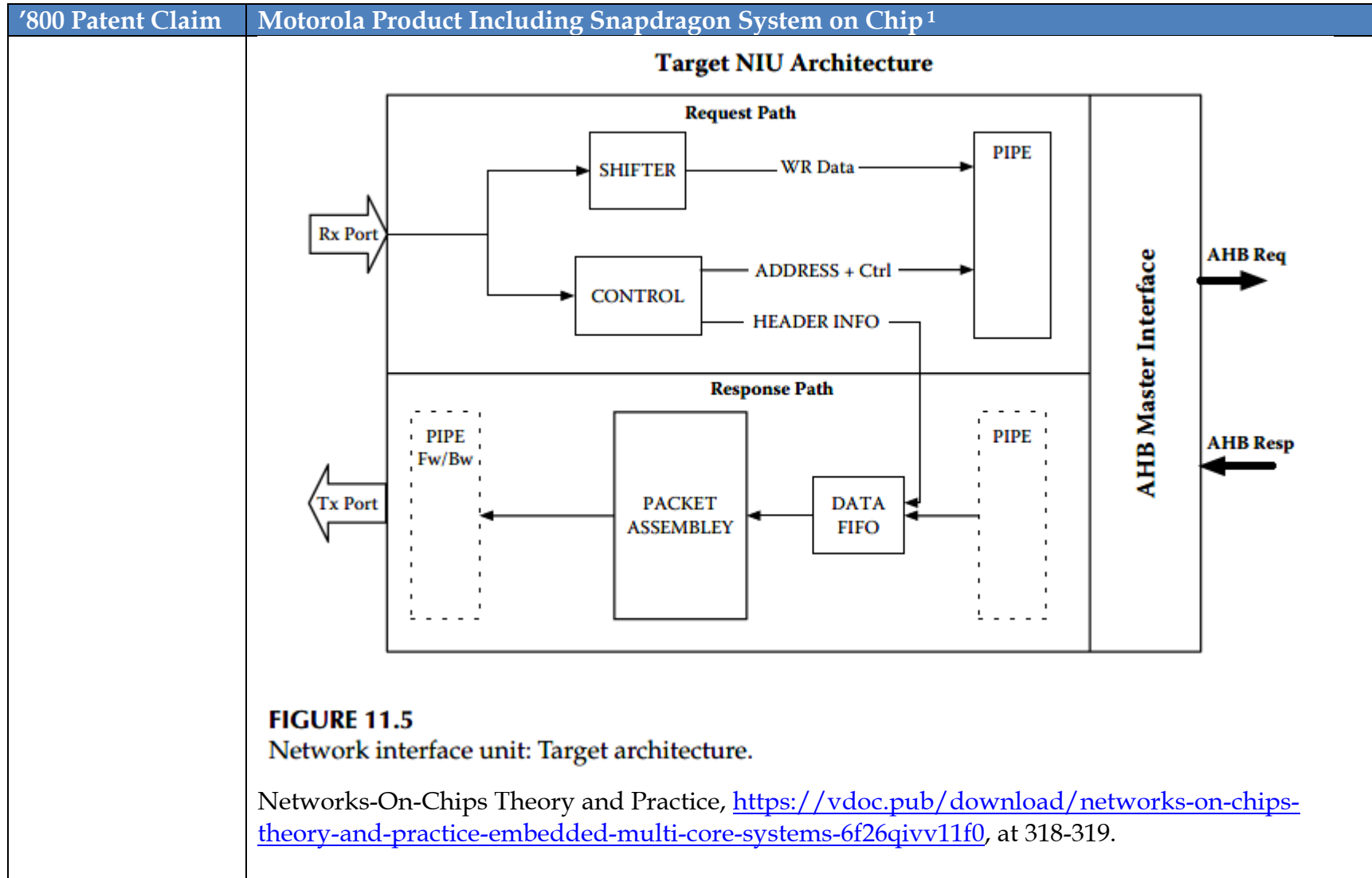
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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connecting the slave interface unit to the interconnect so that the slave interface unit is between the slave and the interconnect;	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product connects the slave interface unit to the interconnect so that the slave interface unit is between the slave and the interconnect, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

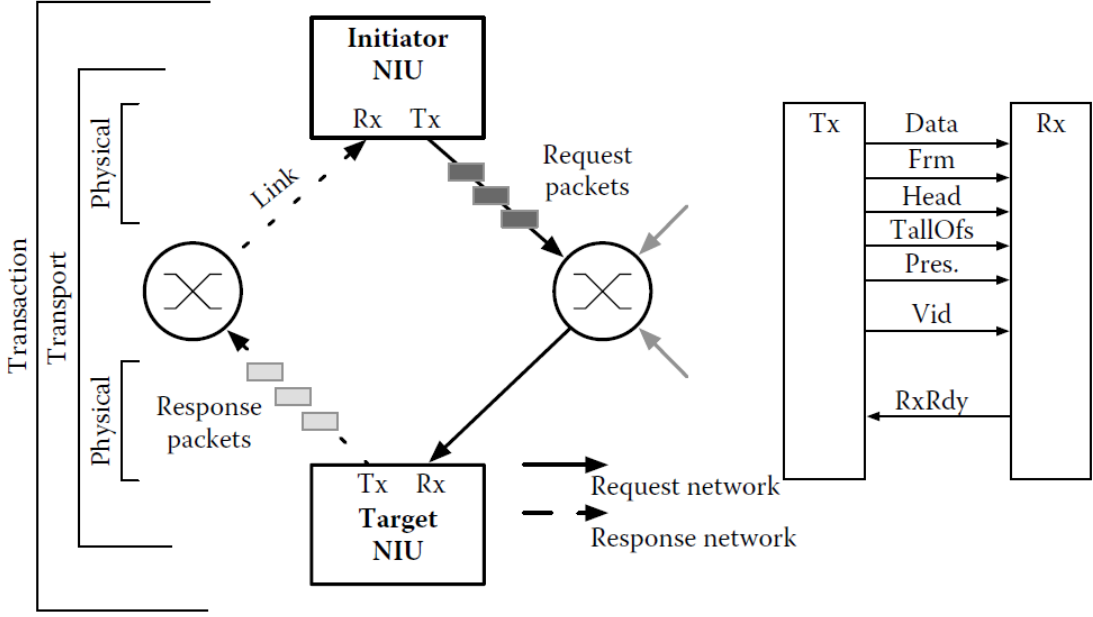
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“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p>The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p>As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets”:</p>

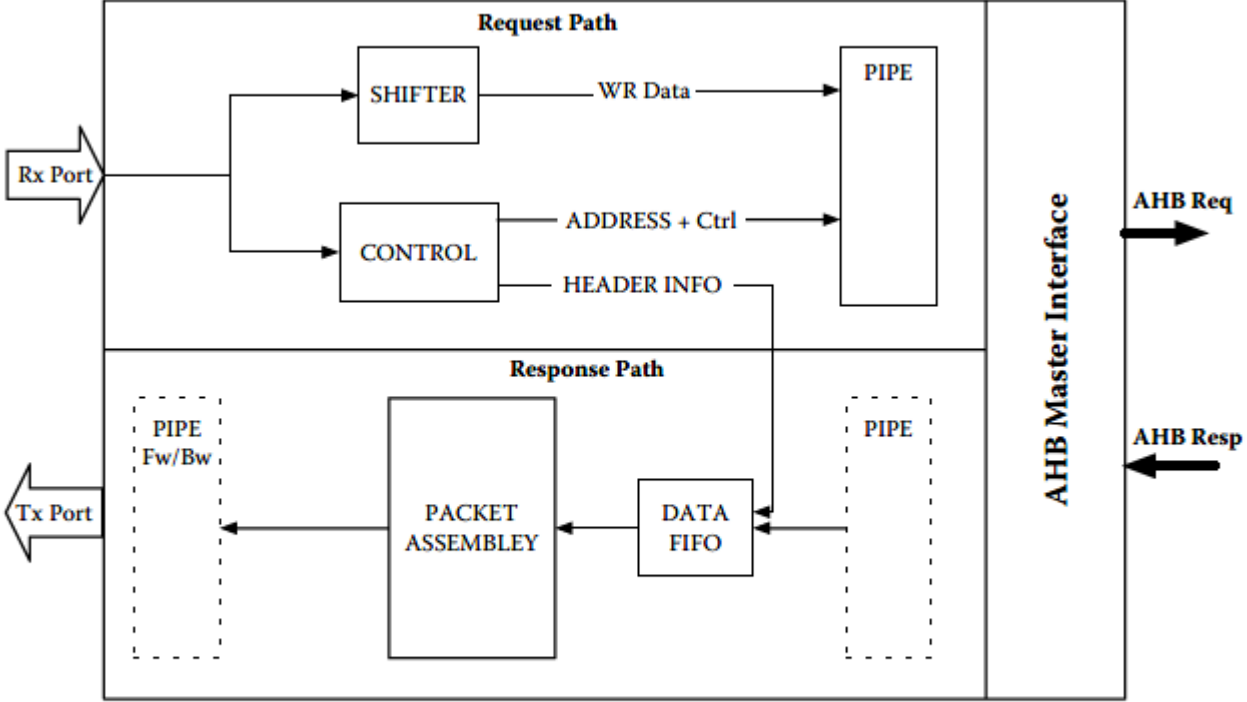
U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p style="text-align: center;">Target NIU Architecture</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Target NIU Architecture. It is divided into two main horizontal sections: the Request Path (top) and the Response Path (bottom). On the left, there is an Rx Port (input) and a Tx Port (output). The Request Path contains a SHIFTER and a CONTROL block. The Rx Port feeds into both. The SHIFTER outputs WR Data to a PIPE. The CONTROL block outputs ADDRESS + Ctrl to the same PIPE and HEADER INFO to a DATA FIFO in the Response Path. The Response Path contains a PACKET ASSEMBLY, a DATA FIFO, and two dashed boxes labeled PIPE Fw/Bw. The DATA FIFO feeds into the PACKET ASSEMBLY, which then feeds into the Tx Port. The PACKET ASSEMBLY also feeds into the DATA FIFO. The DATA FIFO also feeds into the PIPE Fw/Bw block. On the right, there is an AHB Master Interface. It receives AHB Req (Request) and sends AHB Resp (Response). The AHB Master Interface is connected to the PIPE and the DATA FIFO.</p> <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>
determining by a master	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product determines by a master determination unit of the master interface unit a first optimal amount of data to be

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determination unit of the master interface unit a first optimal amount of data to be buffered by a master wrapper of the master interface unit;	<p>buffered by a master wrapper of the master interface unit, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

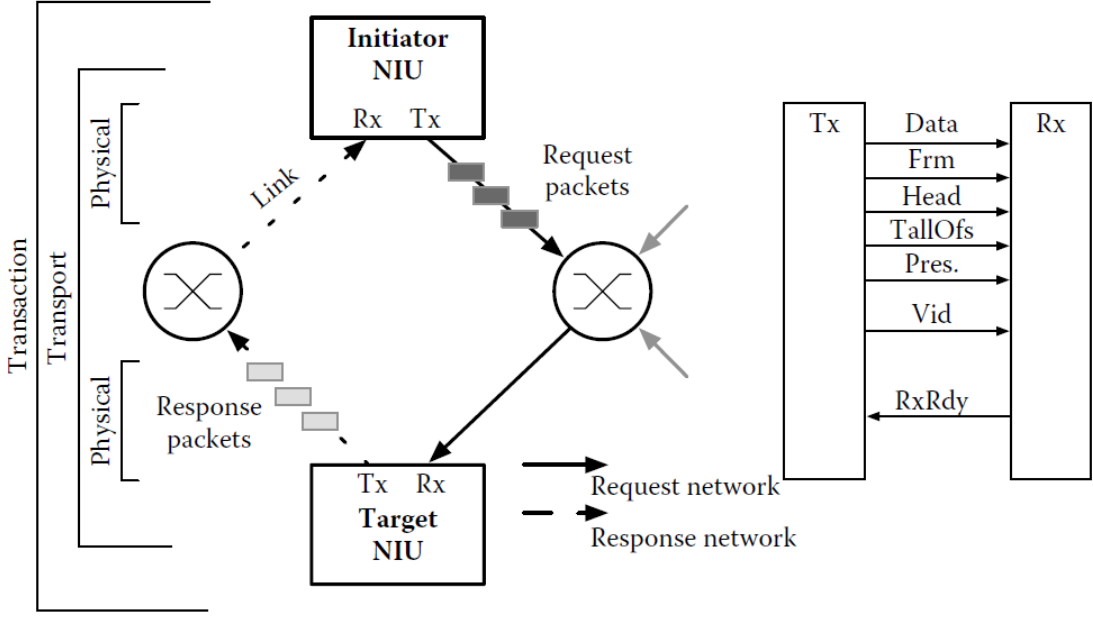
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p>The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p>In the Arteris NoC “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO,” “Translation Table,” “Build Header & Necker,” and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>In the Initiator NIUs of the Arteris NoC, a “FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is</p>

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	<p data-bbox="506 250 1860 326">defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p data-bbox="531 386 1024 423">11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="527 444 1812 1081">Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p data-bbox="527 1086 1812 1170">A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

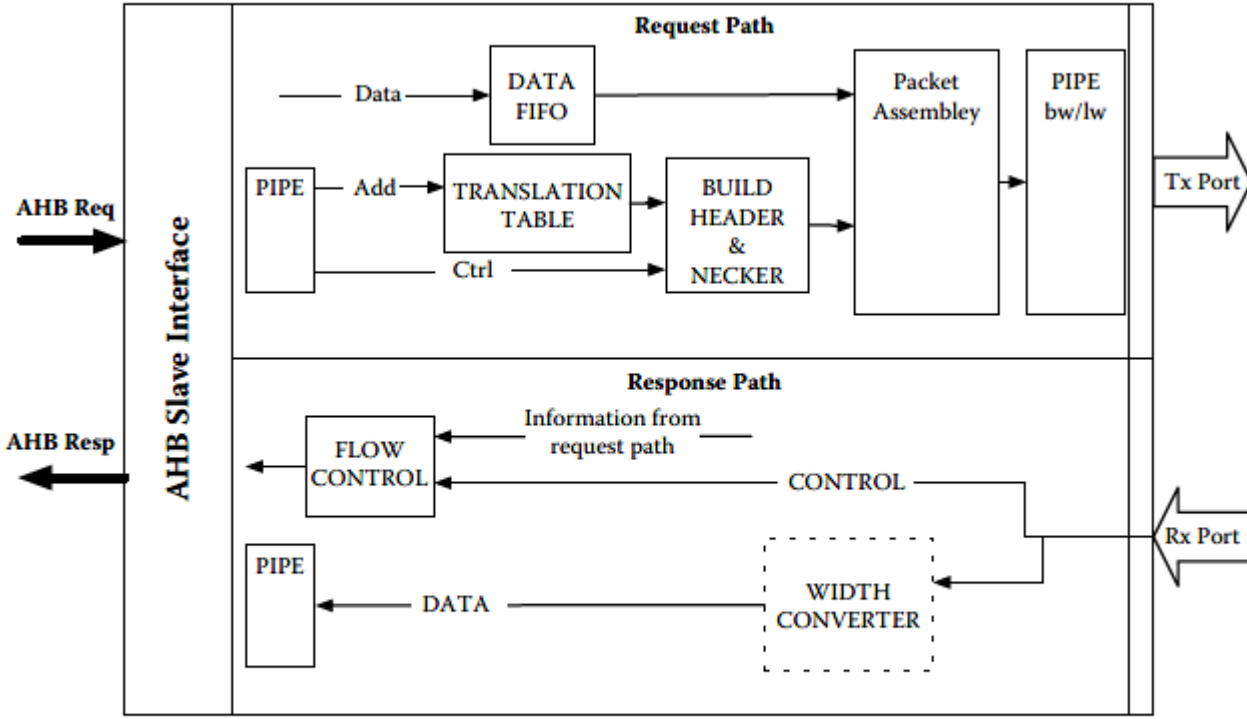
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	<p>burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p>  <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p>
determining by a slave determination unit	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product determines by a slave determination unit of the slave interface unit a second optimal amount of data to be

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<p>of the slave interface unit a second optimal amount of data to be buffered by a slave wrapper of the slave interface unit;</p>	<p>buffered by a slave wrapper of the slave interface unit, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

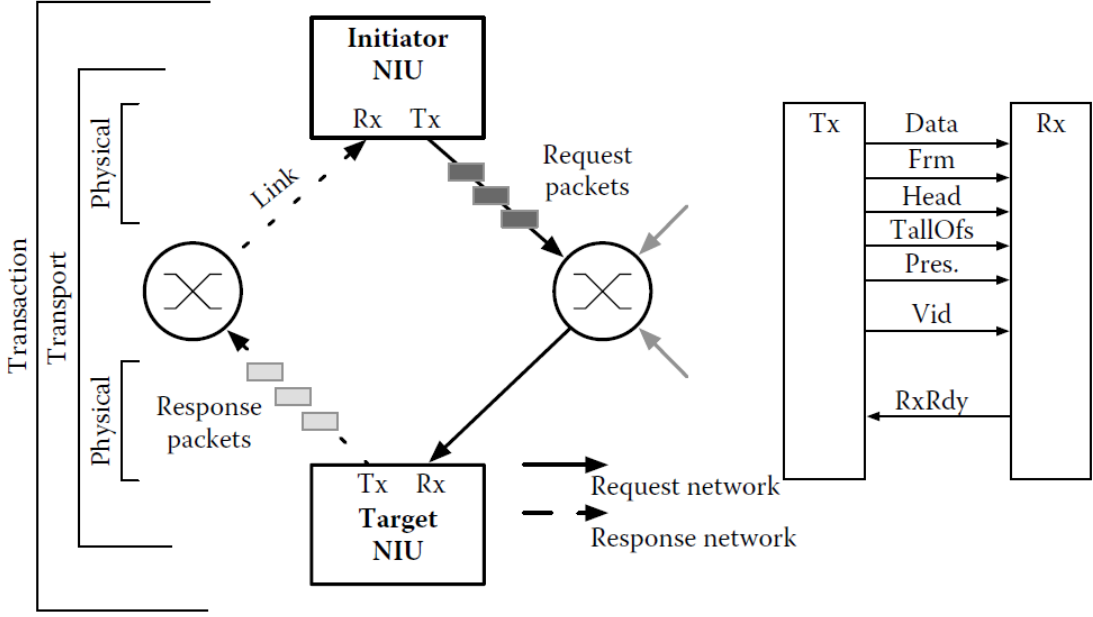
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1871 967">As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO ”and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

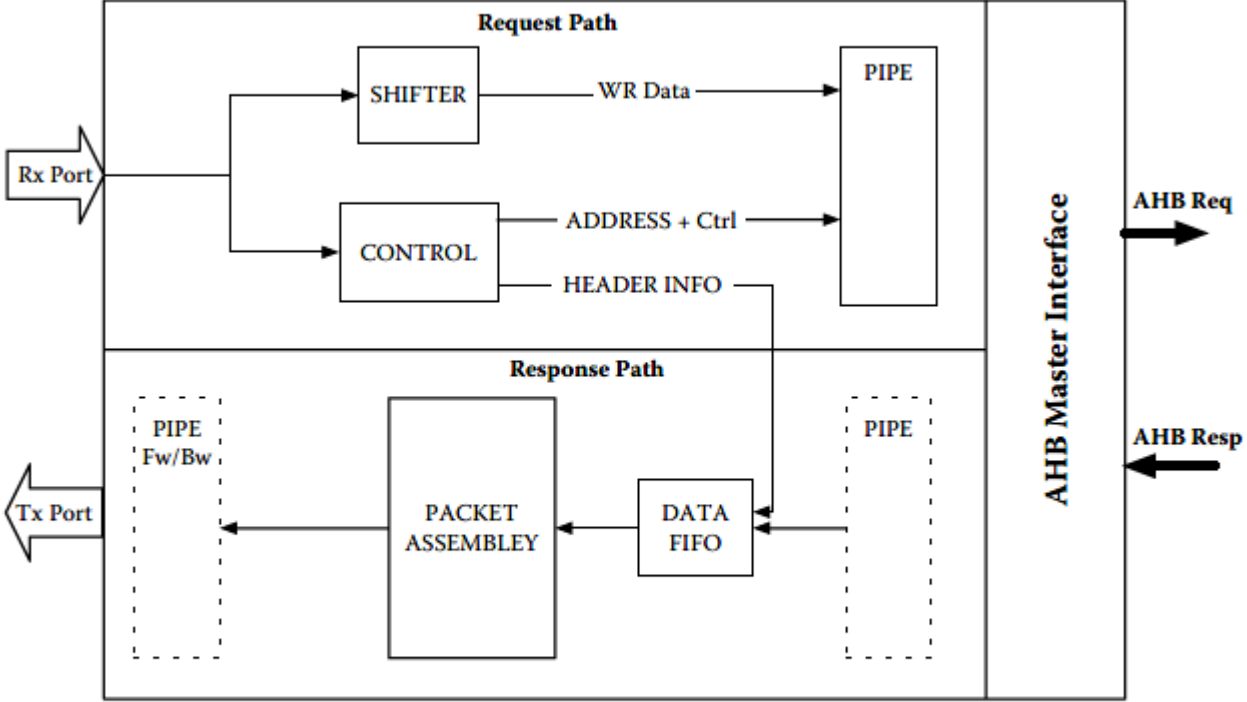
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Target NIU Architecture</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Target NIU Architecture. It is divided into two main horizontal sections: the Request Path (top) and the Response Path (bottom). On the left, there is an Rx Port (input) and a Tx Port (output). The Request Path contains a SHIFTER and a CONTROL block. The Rx Port feeds into both. The SHIFTER outputs WR Data to a PIPE. The CONTROL block outputs ADDRESS + Ctrl to the same PIPE and HEADER INFO to a DATA FIFO. The Response Path contains a PACKET ASSEMBLY and a DATA FIFO. The DATA FIFO receives data from the PIPE and outputs to the PACKET ASSEMBLY. The PACKET ASSEMBLY outputs to a dashed box labeled PIPE Fw/Bw, which then feeds into the Tx Port. On the right, the AHB Master Interface connects to the system bus, with AHB Req (request) and AHB Resp (response) signals.</p> <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>

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	<p>In the Target NIUs of the Arteris NoC, similar to as described above for the Initiator NIUs, “[a] FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB ... accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB ... rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a ... packet: each time the FIFO is full, a ... packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0 , at 317-318.
buffering by the slave wrapper of the slave interface unit data from the slave to be transferred over the interconnect until a first optimal amount of data is buffered;	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product buffers by the slave wrapper of the slave interface unit data from the slave to be transferred over the interconnect until a first optimal amount of data is buffered, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

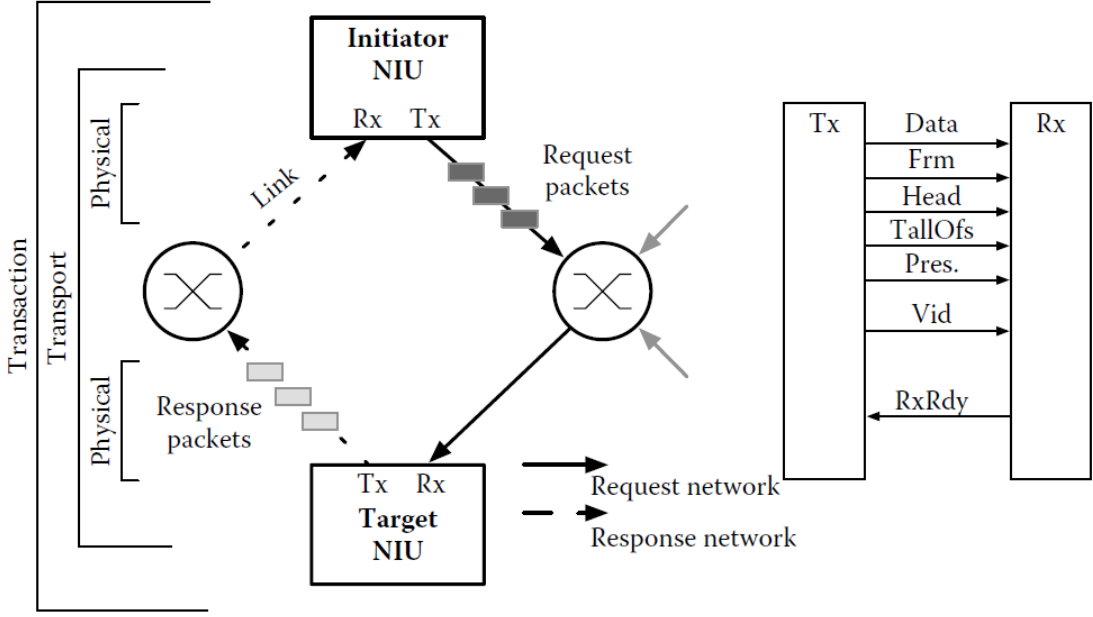
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1866 967">As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO ”and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

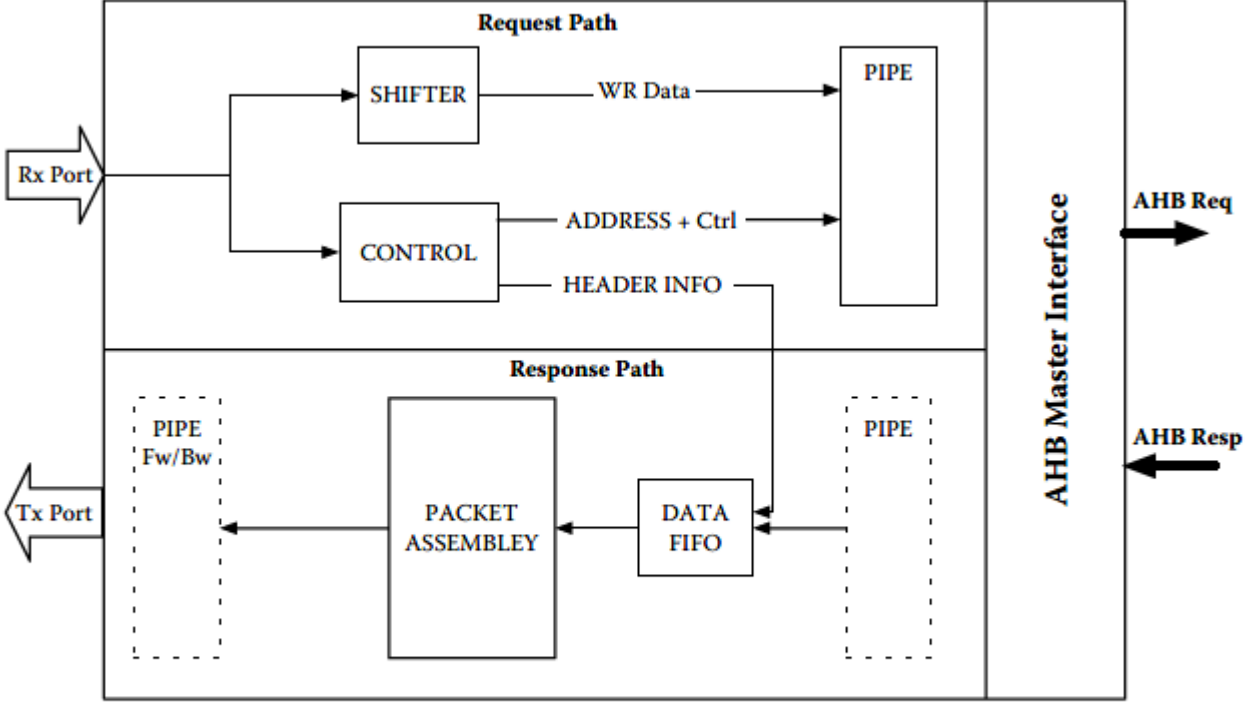
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p style="text-align: center;">Target NIU Architecture</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Target NIU Architecture. It is divided into two main horizontal sections: the Request Path (top) and the Response Path (bottom). The Request Path starts with an Rx Port (indicated by an arrow pointing right) that splits into two parallel paths. The upper path goes through a SHIFTER block, which outputs WR Data to a PIPE block. The lower path goes through a CONTROL block, which outputs ADDRESS + Ctrl and HEADER INFO to the same PIPE block. The Response Path starts with an AHB Master Interface on the right, which receives AHB Resp (indicated by an arrow pointing left) and sends AHB Req (indicated by an arrow pointing right). This interface connects to a DATA FIFO block, which then feeds into a PACKET ASSEMBLY block. The PACKET ASSEMBLY block outputs to a dashed box labeled PIPE Fw/Bw, which is connected to a Tx Port (indicated by an arrow pointing left). The entire architecture is enclosed in a large rectangle with the title 'Target NIU Architecture' at the top center.</p> <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>

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	<p>In the Target NIUs of the Arteris NoC, similar to as described above for the Initiator NIUs, “[a] FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB ... accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB ... rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a ... packet: each time the FIFO is full, a ... packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the Arteris NoC uses “a mechanism called rated adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.” For other traffic, the “[b]est effort traffic can be left untouched[,]” “[l]atency sensitive traffic may have its urgency modulated as a function of the transaction[,]” “[s]oft real-time traffic may have its hurry level modulated as a function of the bandwidth it receives[,]” and “[o]n the real-time modem data port, the hurry is fixed at a critical level”:</p> <p>Those effects can be mended by the insertion of buffering. In the case of peak bandwidth reduction, a simple FIFO does the job: Busy states present at the output of the FIFO do not propagate back to the input until the FIFO is full. For a peak bandwidth increase, the situation is a bit more complex. In a FIFO, wait states present at the input are only absorbed when the FIFO is not empty. Arteris proposes a mechanism called rate adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.</p> <p>In this second step, the architecture is modified to introduce some buffering. In our example 760 bytes of memory have been distributed across the topology. Some have been put on existing links; some required the creation of new links.</p> <p>See Application driven network-on-chip architecture exploration & refinement for a complex SoC, https://www.arteris.com/hs-fs/hub/48858/file-14363521-pdf/docs/springerappdrivennocarchitecture8.5x11.pdf, at pg.16.</p>
transferring the buffered data from the slave wrapper to the master	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product transfers the buffered data from the slave wrapper to the master wrapper when said first optimal amount of data has been buffered by the slave wrapper, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

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<p>wrapper when said first optimal amount of data has been buffered by the slave wrapper;</p>	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

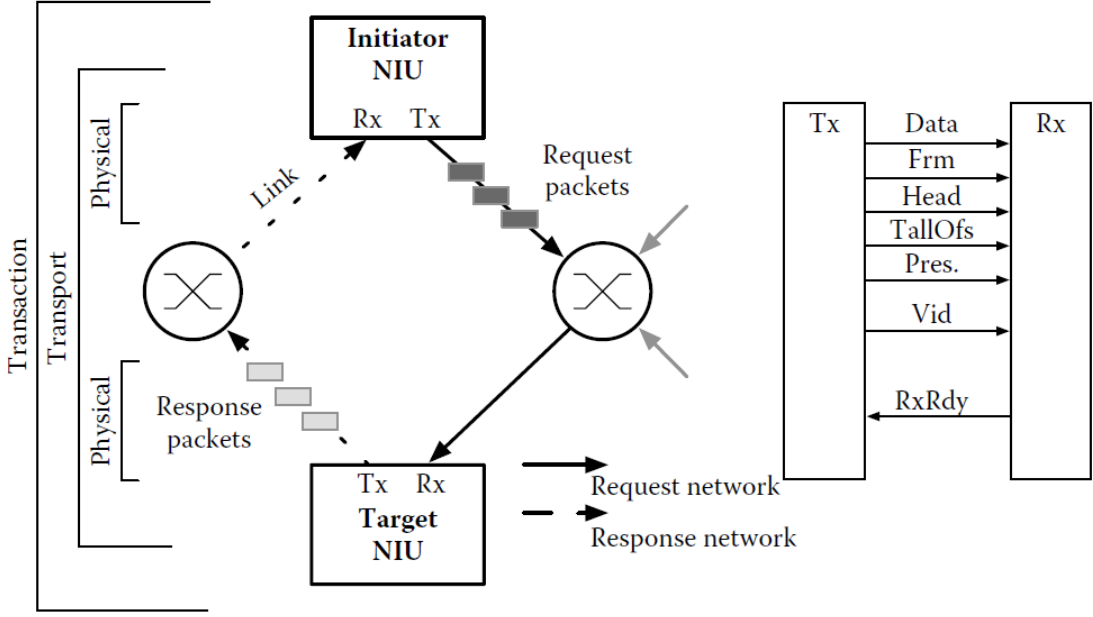
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 298">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 508 1808 704" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1866 967">As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO ”and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

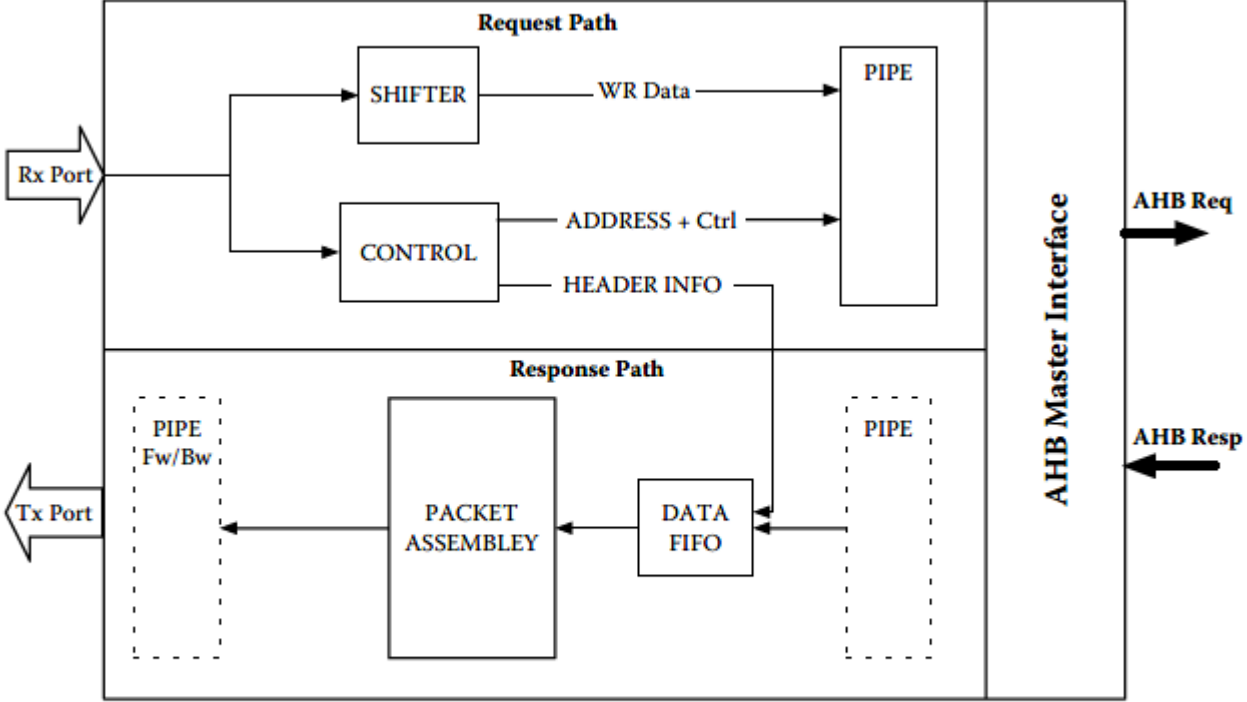
U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Target NIU Architecture</p>  <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>

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	<p>In the Target NIUs of the Arteris NoC, similar to as described above for the Initiator NIUs, “[a] FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB ... accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB ... rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a ... packet: each time the FIFO is full, a ... packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0 , at 317-318.
buffering by the master wrapper of the master interface unit data from the master to be transferred over the interconnect until a second optimal amount of data is buffered by the master wrapper;	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product buffers by the master wrapper of the master interface unit data from the master to be transferred over the interconnect until a second optimal amount of data is buffered by the master wrapper, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

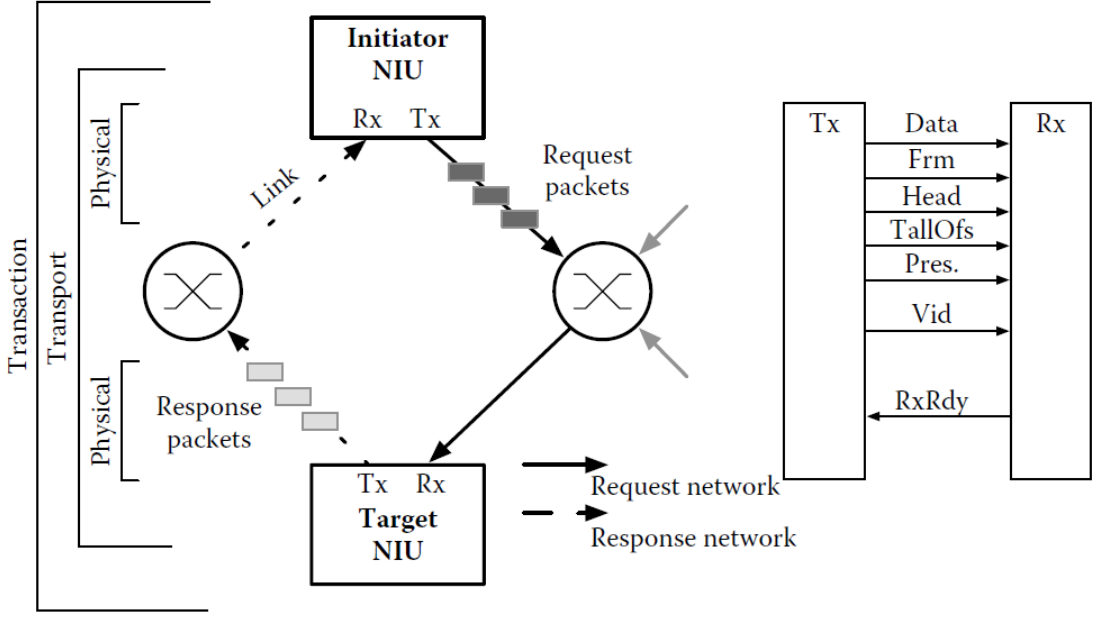
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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1835 967">In the Arteris NoC “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO,” “Translation Table,” “Build Header & Necker,” and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

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	<div><p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. On the left, an 'AHB Slave Interface' is shown with an 'AHB Req' arrow pointing into the Request Path and an 'AHB Resp' arrow pointing out from the Response Path. The Request Path starts with 'Data' entering a 'DATA FIFO', which then feeds into a 'Packet Assembly' block. A 'PIPE' block also feeds into the 'Packet Assembly' via an 'Add' connection. The 'Packet Assembly' outputs to a 'PIPE bw/lw' block, which then connects to the 'Tx Port'. The Response Path starts at the 'Rx Port', which feeds into a 'WIDTH CONVERTER' (indicated by a dashed box). The 'WIDTH CONVERTER' outputs 'DATA' to a 'PIPE' block. This 'PIPE' feeds into a 'FLOW CONTROL' block. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block has a 'CONTROL' output that feeds back into the 'Packet Assembly' and also receives 'Information from request path'. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block also outputs an 'Add' signal to the 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block. The 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block receives 'Ctrl' from the 'FLOW CONTROL' and outputs to the 'BUILD HEADER & NECKER' block. The 'BUILD HEADER & NECKER' block outputs to the 'Packet Assembly'.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>In the Initiator NIUs of the Arteris NoC, a “FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is</p>

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	<p data-bbox="506 250 1860 326">defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p data-bbox="531 386 1024 423">11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="527 444 1812 1081">Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p data-bbox="527 1086 1812 1170">A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

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	<p>burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<div><p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. On the left, an 'AHB Slave Interface' is shown with an 'AHB Req' arrow pointing into the Request Path and an 'AHB Resp' arrow pointing out from the Response Path. The Request Path starts with 'Data' entering a 'DATA FIFO', which then feeds into a 'Packet Assembly' block. A 'PIPE' block also feeds into the 'Packet Assembly' via an 'Add' connection. The 'Packet Assembly' outputs to a 'PIPE bw/lw' block, which then connects to the 'Tx Port'. The Response Path starts at the 'Rx Port', which feeds into a 'WIDTH CONVERTER' (indicated by a dashed box). The 'WIDTH CONVERTER' outputs 'DATA' to a 'PIPE' block. This 'PIPE' block feeds into a 'FLOW CONTROL' block. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block has a 'CONTROL' output that feeds back into the 'Packet Assembly' in the Request Path. Additionally, the 'FLOW CONTROL' block receives 'Information from request path' and has an output that feeds back into the 'DATA FIFO'.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the Arteris NoC uses “a mechanism called rated adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.” For other traffic, the “[b]est effort traffic can be left untouched[,]” “[l]atency sensitive traffic may have its</p>

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	<p>urgency modulated as a function of the transaction[,]” “[s]oft real-time traffic may have its hurry level modulated as a function of the bandwidth it receives[,]” and “[o]n the real-time modem data port, the hurry is fixed at a critical level”:</p> <p>Those effects can be mended by the insertion of buffering. In the case of peak bandwidth reduction, a simple FIFO does the job: Busy states present at the output of the FIFO do not propagate back to the input until the FIFO is full. For a peak bandwidth increase, the situation is a bit more complex. In a FIFO, wait states present at the input are only absorbed when the FIFO is not empty. Arteris proposes a mechanism called rate adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.</p> <p>In this second step, the architecture is modified to introduce some buffering. In our example 760 bytes of memory have been distributed across the topology. Some have been put on existing links; some required the creation of new links.</p> <p>See Application driven network-on-chip architecture exploration & refinement for a complex SoC, https://www.arteris.com/hs-fs/hub/48858/file-14363521-pdf/docs/springerappdrivennocarchitecture8.5x11.pdf, at pg.16.</p>
transferring the buffered data from the master wrapper to the slave wrapper when said second optimal amount of data has been buffered by the master wrapper,	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product transfers the buffered data from the master wrapper to the slave wrapper when said second optimal amount of data has been buffered by the master wrapper, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p>

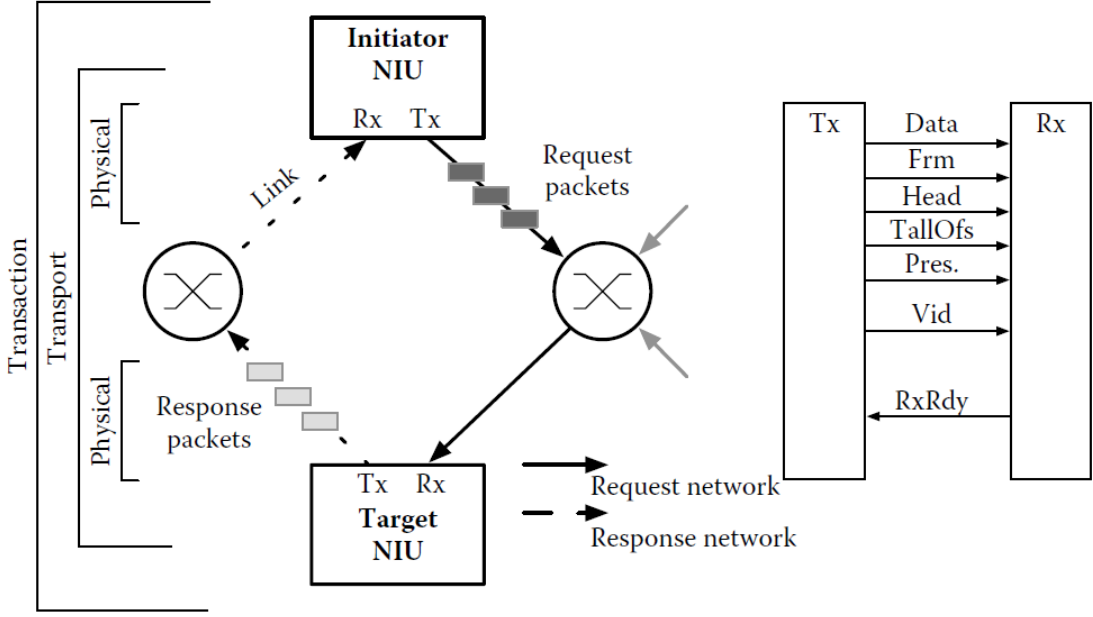
U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

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	<p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU's transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC”:</p>

U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for buffering to optimize burst length in networks on chips”

'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p>The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p>In the Arteris NoC “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO,” “Translation Table,” “Build Header & Necker,” and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

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	<div><p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. On the left, an 'AHB Slave Interface' is shown with an 'AHB Req' arrow pointing into the Request Path and an 'AHB Resp' arrow pointing out from the Response Path. The Request Path starts with 'Data' entering a 'DATA FIFO', which then feeds into a 'Packet Assembly' block. A 'PIPE' block also feeds into the 'Packet Assembly' via an 'Add' signal. The 'Packet Assembly' outputs to a 'PIPE bw/lw' block, which then connects to the 'Tx Port'. The Response Path starts at the 'Rx Port', which feeds into a 'WIDTH CONVERTER' (indicated by a dashed box). The 'WIDTH CONVERTER' outputs 'DATA' to a 'PIPE' block. This 'PIPE' block feeds into a 'FLOW CONTROL' block. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block has a 'CONTROL' signal that feeds back into the 'Packet Assembly' and also receives 'Information from request path'. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block outputs an 'Add' signal to the 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block. The 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block also receives a 'Ctrl' signal and outputs to a 'BUILD HEADER & NECKER' block, which then feeds into the 'Packet Assembly'.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>In the Initiator NIUs of the Arteris NoC, a “FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is</p>

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	<p>defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

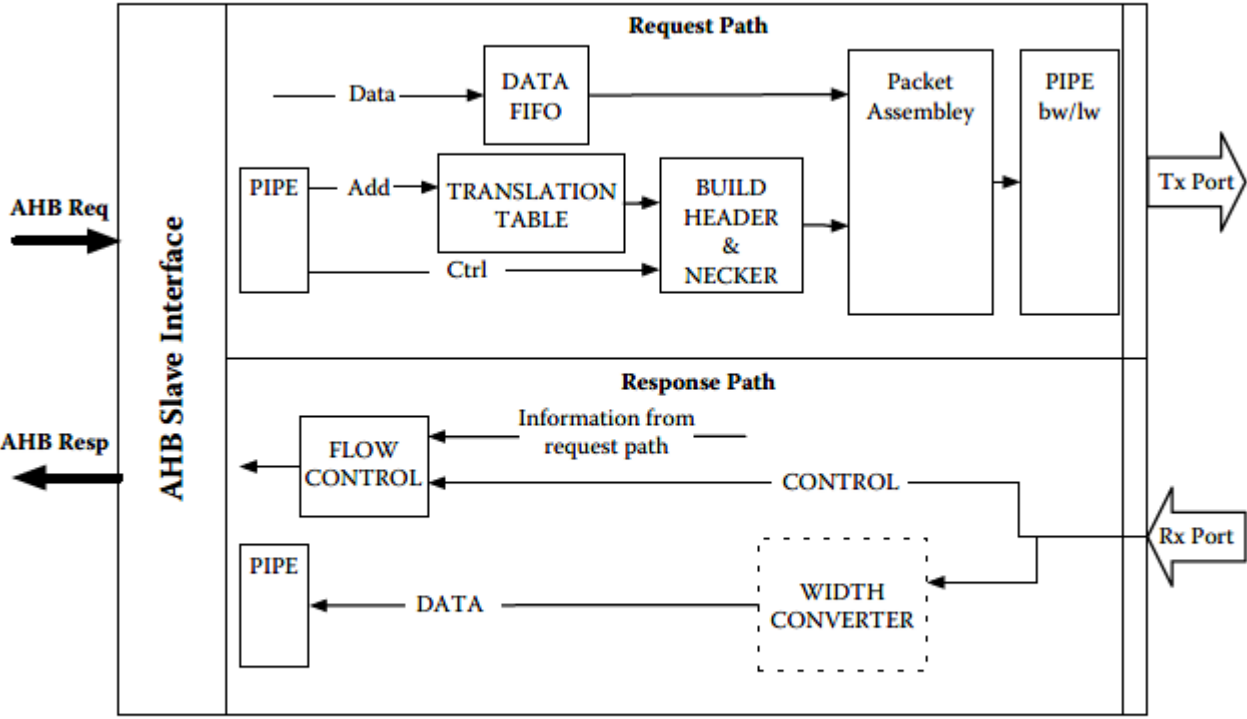
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	<p data-bbox="520 256 1854 630">burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul data-bbox="598 678 1801 976" style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p>  <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p>
wherein at least one of the first determination unit	In the Arteris NoC utilized by the Snapdragon SoC included in the Motorola product, at least one of the first determination unit and the second determination unit is further configured to determine an optimal moment for sending the data in said first wrapper or said second wrapper

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<p>and the second determination unit is further configured to determine an optimal moment for sending the data in said first wrapper or said second wrapper according to communication properties of the communication between the master and the slave, wherein the communication properties include ordering of data transport, flow control including when a remote buffer is reserved for a connection, then a data producer will be allowed to send data only when it</p>	<p>according to communication properties of the communication between the master and the slave wherein the communication properties include ordering of data transport, flow control including when a remote buffer is reserved for a connection, then a data producer will be allowed to send data only when it is guaranteed that space is available for the produced data at the remote buffer, throughput where a lower bound on throughput is guaranteed, latency where an upper bound for latency is guaranteed, lossiness including dropping of data, transmission termination, transaction completion, data correctness, priority, and data delivery, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, the NIUs “are at the boundary of the NoC” and there is a NIU connected to each of the master and slave nodes, between the nodes and the network:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

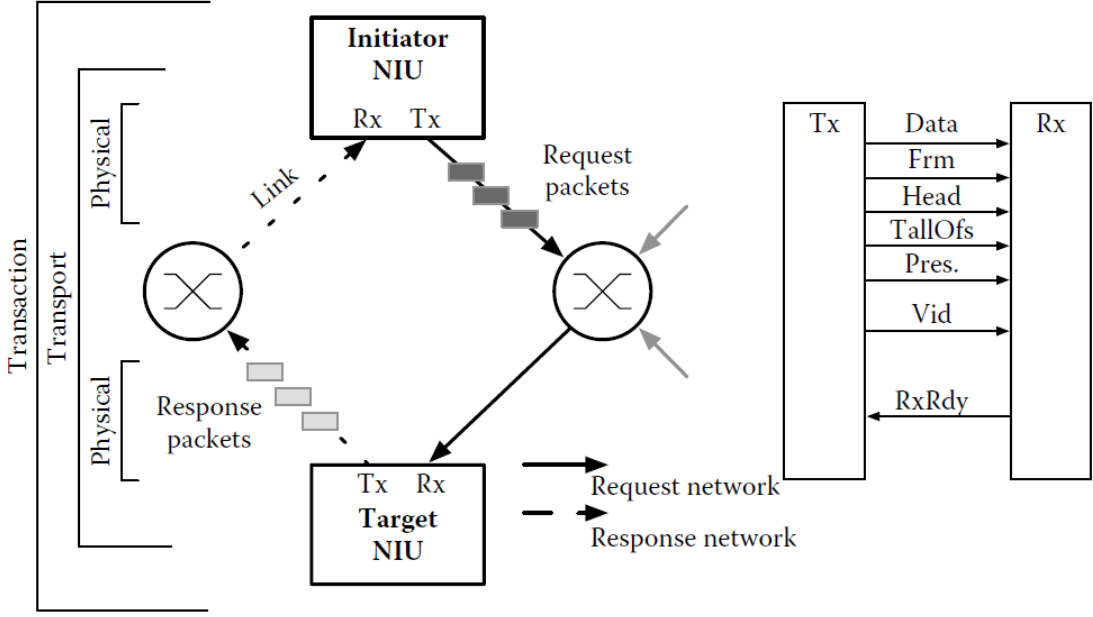
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<p>is guaranteed that space is available for the produced data at the remote buffer, throughput where a lower bound on throughput is guaranteed, latency where an upper bound for latency is guaranteed, lossiness including dropping of data, transmission termination, transaction completion, data correctness, priority, and data delivery.</p>	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>The Initiator NIUs are “used to connect a master node to the NoC” and the Target NIUs are “used to connect a slave node to the NoC”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 261 1094 302">11.3.2 Network Interface Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 334 1856 472">The Arteris Danube IP library includes NIUs for different third party protocols. Currently, three different protocols are supported: AHB (APB), OCP, and AXI. For each protocol, two different NIU units can be instantiated:</p> <ul data-bbox="594 513 1808 708" style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiator NIU—third party protocol-to-NTTP, used to connect a master node to the NoC • Target NIUs—NTTP-to-third party protocol, used to connect a slave node to the NoC <p data-bbox="499 735 1808 808">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 316-317.</p> <p data-bbox="499 854 1835 967">In the Arteris NoC “Initiator NIU units...enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO,” “Translation Table,” “Build Header & Necker,” and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

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	<div><p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. On the left, an 'AHB Slave Interface' is shown with an 'AHB Req' arrow pointing into the Request Path and an 'AHB Resp' arrow pointing out from the Response Path. The Request Path starts with 'Data' entering a 'DATA FIFO', which then feeds into a 'Packet Assembly' block. A 'PIPE' block also feeds into the 'Packet Assembly' via an 'Add' connection. The 'Packet Assembly' outputs to a 'PIPE bw/lw' block, which finally connects to the 'Tx Port'. The Response Path starts at the 'Rx Port', which feeds into a 'WIDTH CONVERTER' (indicated by a dashed box). The 'WIDTH CONVERTER' outputs 'DATA' to a 'PIPE' block. This 'PIPE' block feeds into a 'FLOW CONTROL' block. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block has a 'CONTROL' output that feeds back into the 'Packet Assembly' in the Request Path. Additionally, the 'FLOW CONTROL' block receives 'Information from request path' and has an output that feeds back into the 'DATA FIFO'.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>In the Initiator NIUs of the Arteris NoC, a “FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is</p>

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	<p data-bbox="506 250 1860 326">defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p data-bbox="531 386 1024 423">11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="527 448 1812 1081">Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p data-bbox="527 1089 1812 1170">A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can</p>

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	<p>burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<div><p style="text-align: center;">NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the NIU Architecture, which is divided into two main sections: the Request Path and the Response Path. On the left, an 'AHB Slave Interface' is shown with an 'AHB Req' arrow pointing into the Request Path and an 'AHB Resp' arrow pointing out from the Response Path. The Request Path starts with 'Data' entering a 'DATA FIFO', which then feeds into a 'Packet Assembly' block. A 'PIPE' block also feeds into the 'Packet Assembly' via an 'Add' signal. The 'Packet Assembly' outputs to a 'PIPE bw/lw' block, which then connects to the 'Tx Port'. The Response Path starts at the 'Rx Port', which feeds into a 'WIDTH CONVERTER' (indicated by a dashed box). The 'WIDTH CONVERTER' outputs 'DATA' to a 'PIPE' block. This 'PIPE' feeds into a 'FLOW CONTROL' block. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block has a 'CONTROL' signal that feeds back into the 'Packet Assembly' and also receives 'Information from request path'. The 'FLOW CONTROL' block outputs an 'Add' signal to the 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block. The 'TRANSLATION TABLE' block also receives a 'Ctrl' signal and outputs to a 'BUILD HEADER & NECKER' block, which then feeds into the 'Packet Assembly'.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.4 Network interface unit: Initiator architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p> <p>As further example, “Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTPP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets” and includes blocks such as “Data FIFO ”and “Packet Assembly”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always 32 bits wide, but the actual address space size may be downsized by setting a hardware parameter. Unused AHB address bits are then driven to zero. The NTTP request packet is then translated into one or more corresponding AHB accesses, depending on the transaction type (word aligned or nonaligned access). For example, if the request is an atomic Store, or a Load that can fit an AHB burst of specified length, then such a burst is generated. Otherwise, an AHB burst with unspecified length is generated.</p>

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	<div><p>Target NIU Architecture</p><p>The diagram illustrates the Target NIU Architecture. It is divided into two main horizontal sections: the Request Path (top) and the Response Path (bottom). On the left, there is an Rx Port (input) and a Tx Port (output). The Request Path contains a SHIFTER and a CONTROL block. The Rx Port feeds into both. The SHIFTER outputs WR Data to a PIPE. The CONTROL block outputs ADDRESS + Ctrl to the same PIPE and HEADER INFO to a DATA FIFO in the Response Path. The Response Path contains a PACKET ASSEMBLY and two dashed boxes labeled PIPE Fw/Bw. The DATA FIFO feeds into the PACKET ASSEMBLY, which then feeds into the left PIPE Fw/Bw. The Tx Port is connected to this left PIPE Fw/Bw. On the right, an AHB Master Interface connects the internal components to the AHB bus. It sends AHB Req (Request) and receives AHB Resp (Response) from the bus.</p></div> <p>FIGURE 11.5 Network interface unit: Target architecture.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 318-319.</p>

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	<p>In the Target NIUs of the Arteris NoC, similar to as described above for the Initiator NIUs, “[a] FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB ... accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB ... rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received.” “[T]he FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter” which “indicates the amount of data required to generate a ... packet: each time the FIFO is full, a ... packet is sent on the Tx port”:</p> <p>A FIFO memory is inserted in the datapath for AHB write accesses. The FIFO memory absorbs data at the AHB initiator rate, so that NTTP packets can burst at NoC rate as soon as a minimum amount of data has been received. The width of the FIFO and the AHB data bus is identical, and the FIFO depth is defined by the hardware parameter. This parameter indicates the amount of data required to generate a Store packet: each time the FIFO is full, a Request packet is sent on the Tx port. Of course, if the AHB access ends before the FIFO is full, the NTTP request packet is sent. Because AHB can only tolerate a single outstanding transaction, the AHB bus is frozen until the NTTP transaction has been completed. That is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a read request, until the requested data arrives from the Rx port • During a nonbufferable write request, in which case only the last access is frozen and the acknowledge occurs when the last NTTP response packet has been received • When an internal FIFO is full

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	<p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317-318.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:</p> <p>11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p>The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p><i>Id.</i> at 313.</p> <p>As yet a further illustration, packets in the Arteris NoC are “delivered as words that are sent along links and “[o]ne link (represented in Figure 11.1) defines the following signals,” which include “the current priority of the packet used to define preferred traffic class (or Quality of Service)” and “[f]low control”:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data—Data word of the width specified at design-time. • Frm—When asserted high, indicates that a packet is being transmitted. • Head—When asserted high, indicates the current word contains a packet header. When the link-width is smaller than single (SGL), the header transmission is split into several word transfers. However, the Head signal is asserted during the first transfer only. • TailOfs—Packet tail: when asserted high, indicates that the current word contains the last packet cell. When the link-width is smaller than single (SGL), the last cell transmission is split into several word transfers. However, the Tail signal is asserted during the first transfer only. • Pres.—Indicates the current priority of the packet used to define preferred traffic class (or Quality of Service). The width is fixed during the design time, allowing multiple pressure levels within the same NoC instance (bits 3–5 in Figure 11.2). • Vld—Data valid: when asserted high, indicates that a word is being transmitted. • RxRdy—Flow control: when asserted high, the receiver is ready to accept word. When de-asserted, the receiver is busy. <p><i>Id.</i> at 313-314.</p>

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	<p>As a further illustration, the Arteris NoC implements Quality of Service (QoS) to “provide[] a regulation mechanism allowing specification of guarantees on some of the parameters related to the traffic”; “QoS, which includes guarantees of throughput and/or latency, is achieved by exploiting the signal pressure embedded into the NTTP packet definition” where the “pressure signal can be generated by the IP itself and is typically linked to a certain level of urgency with which the transaction will have to be completed”; and the “pressure information will be embedded in the NTTP packet at the NIU level”:</p> <p>Quality of Service (QoS). The QoS is a very important feature in the inter-connect infrastructures because it provides a regulation mechanism allowing specification of guarantees on some of the parameters related to the traffic. Usually the end users are looking for guarantees on bandwidth and/or end-to-end communication latency. Different mechanisms and strategies have been proposed in the literature. For instance, in <i>Æthereal NoC</i> [11,24] proposed by NXP, a TDMA approach allows the specification of two traffic categories [25]: BE and GT.</p> <p>In the Arteris NoC, the QoS is achieved by exploiting the signal pressure embedded into the NTTP packet definition (Figures 11.1 and 11.2). The pressure</p>

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	<p>signal can be generated by the IP itself and is typically linked to a certain level of urgency with which the transaction will have to be completed. For example, we can imagine associating the generation of the pressure signal when a certain threshold has been reached in the FIFO of the corresponding IP. This pressure information will be embedded in the NTTP packet at the NIU level: packets that have pressure bits equal to zero will be considered without QoS; packets with a nonzero value of the pressure bit will indicate preferred traffic class.* Such a QoS mechanism offers immediate service to the most urgent inputs and variables, and fair service whenever there are multiple contending inputs of equal urgency (BE). Within switches, arbitration decisions favor preferred packets and allocate remaining bandwidth (after preferred packets are served) fairly to contending packets. When there are contending preferred packets at the same pressure level, arbitration decisions among them are also fair.</p> <p>The Arteris NoC supports the following four different traffic classes:</p>

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'800 Patent Claim	Motorola Product Including Snapdragon System on Chip ¹
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time and low latency (RTLL)—Traffic flows that require the lowest possible latency. Sometimes it is acceptable to have brief intervals of longer latency as long as the average latency is low. Care must be taken to avoid starving other traffic flows as a side effect of pursuing low latency. • Guaranteed throughput (GT)—Traffic flows that must maintain their throughput over a relatively long time interval. The actual bandwidth needed can be highly variable even over long intervals. Dynamic pressure is employed for this traffic class. • Guaranteed bandwidth (GBW)—Traffic flows that require a guaranteed amount of bandwidth over a relatively long time interval. Over short periods, the network may lag or lead in providing this bandwidth. Bandwidth meters may be inserted onto links in the NoC to regulate these flows, using either of the two methods. If the flow is assigned high pressure, the meter asserts backpressure (flow control) to prevent the flow from exceeding a maximum bandwidth. Alternatively, the meter can modulate the flows pressure (priority) dynamically as needed to maintain an average bandwidth. • Best effort (BE)—Traffic flows that do not require guaranteed latency or throughput but have an expectation of fairness.

U.S. Patent No. 8,086,800 (Radulescu and Goossens)

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	<p data-bbox="541 282 1843 358">* Note that in the NTTP packet, the pressure field allows more then one bit, resulting in multiple levels of preferred traffic.</p> <p data-bbox="501 428 1801 505">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 315-316.</p> <p data-bbox="501 548 1885 727">In addition, the Arteris Interconnect includes “a mechanism called rated adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.” For other traffic, the “[b]est effort traffic can be left untouched[,]” “[l]atency sensitive traffic may have its urgency modulated as a function of the transaction[,]” “[s]oft real-time traffic may have its hurry level modulated as a function of the bandwidth it receives[,]” and “[o]n the real-time modem data port, the hurry is fixed at a critical level.”</p> <p data-bbox="512 781 1860 1036">Those effects can be mended by the insertion of buffering. In the case of peak bandwidth reduction, a simple FIFO does the job: Busy states present at the output of the FIFO do not propagate back to the input until the FIFO is full. For a peak bandwidth increase, the situation is a bit more complex. In a FIFO, wait states present at the input are only absorbed when the FIFO is not empty. Arteris proposes a mechanism called rate adaptation, which stalls packets just enough to remove wait states from the packets, preserving a low latency.</p> <p data-bbox="512 1045 1860 1170">In this second step, the architecture is modified to introduce some buffering. In our example 760 bytes of memory have been distributed across the topology. Some have been put on existing links; some required the creation of new links.</p> <p data-bbox="501 1219 1829 1333">Application driven network-on-chip architecture exploration & refinement for a complex SoC, https://www.arteris.com/hs-fs/hub/48858/file-14363521-pdf/docs/springer-appdrivennocarchitecture8.5x11.pdf, at p. 16.</p>

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	<p>For the other traffic, the configuration can be done in architecture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best effort traffic can be left untouched. • Latency sensitive traffic may have its urgency modulated as a function of the transaction: <i>Normal</i> for writes and <i>important</i> for reads. • Soft real-time traffic may have its hurry level modulated as a function of the bandwidth it receives: <i>Critical</i> until a specified bandwidth is obtained on a sliding 4 microsecond window, and <i>normal</i> thereafter. These settings are set through configuration registers and may be modified while the interconnect is running. The mechanism is called a bandwidth regulator. • On the real-time modem data port, the hurry is fixed at a critical level. <p><i>Id.</i> at 18.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the Arteris NoC implements QoS mechanisms that performs arbitration based on “Bandwidth Regularator (BR)” and “Bandwidth Limiter (BL)”:</p>

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	<h2 data-bbox="527 261 1478 326">Bandwidth Limiters and Rate Regulators</h2> <p data-bbox="527 391 1688 618">Many times architects will want to implement QoS within their SoC but the QoS prioritization data is not available from the individual IP blocks. In this case, QoS information may be generated from within the NoC interconnect using Arteris' QoS Generator. The QoS Generator can instantiate sophisticated, and software programmable, means to regulate interconnect QoS, including:</p> <ul data-bbox="575 683 1703 1000" style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bandwidth Limiters – Bandwidth limiters cause a socket to stop accepting requests when a run-time programmable throughput threshold has been exceeded. ➤ Rate Regulators – Rate regulators cause a socket's transactions to be demoted when a bandwidth threshold is reached. This can be considered a smoother version of the bandwidth limiter because transactions are only demoted instead of stalled. <p data-bbox="499 1024 1356 1062">https://www.arteris.com/end-to-end-quality-of-service-qos</p>